no accommodation in the main school. If we do not spend money here in the small building within the Fort area we shall have to spend it in the main school outside the Fort. This furniture is not intended as a luxury for the Princes who happen to be there and it is not exclusively meant for the Princes. What I say is, I am entirely at one with the demand for furniture. But may I assure the Hon'ble Member that the need here is more urgent than in many of our other schools not because of the percentage of students coming from the Ruling Family but for other reasons.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): May I know whether the Government is making any arrangement at least by next year to supply more furniture to all the schools?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): Certainly. As a matter of fact, the allotment for furniture has greatly increased. Unfortunately, the cost of things has gone up beyond all estimate. When we have Rs. 6,000 instead of Rs. 600 the cost of things has gone up by leaps and bounds.

Demand put and carried

47.	**Rs.**	**3,723**	**under**	**"12—2—Tramway—B—1 (c)—Repairs to bridges"**
48.	**Rs.**	**3,000**	**„**	**„ —B—1 (b)—Maintenance and renewal of permanent way"**
49.	**Rs.**	**910**	**„**	**"do. —B—5 (g)—General and Miscellaneous charges—unclassified expenditure"**
50.	**Rs.**	**770**	**„**	**"do. —B—Revenue—1-a (4)—Travelling allowance"**
51.	**Rs:**	**3,170**	**„**	**"do. do. —1-b (3)—Rails with fittings"**
52.	**Rs.**	**5,500**	**„**	**"do. do. —1-b (4)—sleepers"**
53.	**Rs.**	**4,220**	**„**	**"do. do. —1-c—bridges"**
54.	**Rs.**	**1,740**	**„**	**"do. do. —1-d—buildings"**
55.	**Rs.**	**440**	**„**	**"do. do. —2a (a)—Assistant Foreman"**
56.	**Rs.**	**14,000**	**„**	**"do. do. —2-c—Fuel, coal, etc."**
57.	**Rs.**	**550**	**„**	**"do. do. —2-f—Maintenance and renewal of loco engines"**
58.	**Rs.**	**6,500**	**„**	**"do. do. —2-g—Maintenance and renewal of machinery"**
59.	**Rs.**	**82**	**„**	**"do. do. —4-c—clothing"**
60.	**Rs.**	**1,458**	**„**	**" do. do.—5 (g) unclassifid expenditure, telephones, etc."**

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran (*Conservator of Forests*): Sir, I beg to move the following additional allotment.

Rs.	3,723	— under	"12—2—Tramway—B—1 (c) Repairs to bridges"
Rs.	3,000	„	"12—2—Tramway—B—1—(b)—Maintenance and renewal o Permanent Way"
Rs.	910	„	"do. —B-5 (g)—General and Miscellaneous charges—unclassified expenditure"
Rs.	770	„	"do. —B—Revenue—1 a (4)—Travelling allowance"
Rs.	3,170	„	"do. do.—1-b (3) Rails with fittings"
Rs.	5,500	„	"do. do. 1-b-(4)—sleepers"
Rs.	4,220	„	"do. do. —1-e—brides"
Rs.	1,740	„	"do. do. —1-d—buildings"
Rs.	440	„	"do. do. =2a (a)—Assistant Foreman"
Rs.	14,000	„	"do. do. —2-c—Fuel, coal, etc.
Rs.	550	„	"do. do. —2-f—Maintenance and renewal of loco engines"
Rs.	6,500	„	"do. do. —2-g—Maintenance and renewal of machinery"
Rs.	82	„	"do. do. —4-d—clothing"
Rs.	1,458	„	"do. do. —5 (g) unclassified exqenditure, telephones, etc."

The total additional allotment asked for is Rs. 36,183. The sudden floods in 1118 required many of the bridges along the line to be repaired and the line itself had to be shifted. There has been a considerable increase in the cost of collection of loco fuel. The amount of Rs. 6,500 has been provided for to pay the cost of a new wire rope that has been purchased for the inclines. Under the last item "unclassified expenditure, telephones, etc." it is proposed to completely overhaul the telephone line and the machines and the other items under this class

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include payment of cost for the maintenance of the Tramway siding by the South Indian Railway. I request the House will be pleased to sanction this amount.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* What is wrong with the telephone. Why does the Hon'ble Member require to overhaul it ?

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forets):* They require periodical overhauling. It is absolutely necessary.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will the Hon'ble Member be pleased to inform the House further about the contract which the Government has entered into with the Bombay Burma Corporation. There is a hue and cry that the indiscriminate cutting away of the trees affects the future rainfall of the country.

Mr. President : Order. Order. I do not think that question really arises when a demand for money for the maintenance of the Tramway is discussed.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* The Tramway is used for taking timber. If there is no necessity for taking so much of timber from the forest there is no necessity for the overhauling of the Tramway.

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* The timber is of a species not required for our own use and it is simply owing to the contract with the Supply Department to supply this type of timber that we are able to maintain the Tramway line at present.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know when this expenditure was necessary or became known ?

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* This expenditure could not be foreseen in Meenam last when the Budget was under preparation.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* When was it actually found necessary ?

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* Early this year.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Has it been checked; who are the officers to check this expenditure?

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* The Conservator is the controlling officer for the Tramway.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Who is in charge of the Tramway ?

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* The Tramway Engineer.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are the figures checked ?

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* They have been scrutinised.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* By whom ?

Mr. S. Vekiteswaran *(Mattancheri):* By the Tramway Engineer and by the Conservator.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether this work could not be given on contract to some other Engineers. We are having this tramway muddle for the last so many years.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* It is no more a muddle now.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I do not know that. Much has been said against the working of the Tramway before. Therefore, such a charge should not recur inside this House or outside. Therefore, I suggested that this expenditure budgetted here should be scrutinised by some other Engineers who are able to do so.

Mr. S. Vekiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* Our Tramway Engineer is quite competent to scrutinise them.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the objection to have them scrutinised by another Engineer ? Otherwise we have got only one idea. We have not got the checking idea. Call for tenders to do all this work and let us see whether it could not be done at a lower rate. Get some Engineering Firm to give you tenders. After getting the tenders we can see whether this amount is necessary or a higher amount is necessary and then we can decide. That is the practical way of doing things. When we are doing things departmentally there is no checking at all because whether you do it well or you do it ill you will get your pay. If you give out this work on tender to some Engineering Firm they will come forward and give you definite idea and this House and the Government will be in a position to know how much is aeally necessary. Now we are in the dark. Therefore, I would suggest that this matter be deferred and tenders be called for by Government.

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests) :* I am afraid that the Hon'ble Member has been labouring under a preconceived misapprehension. This is only an estimate and the works included in an estimate are always given on tender or auction and are invariably executed on contract.

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Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* Regarding the occasional complete overhauling of the telephone system is the Hon'ble Member in a position to inform the House whether it is an annual feature of the system.

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* It is not an annual feature. Invariably telephones are overhauled periodically and now it has become necessary to get the whole system overhauled because we are not able to get new machines.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* When was it done last time?

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* It is a day to day repair.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* Then it was done yesterday?

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* It must have been done even yesterday.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether there were other bidders for higher prices for the timber sold to B. B. C?

Demands put and carried

The House adjourned for lunch at 1-30 p.m. and re-assembled at 2-30 with the Hon'ble Deputy President in the Chair.

61.	**Rs. 27,500**	**under**	**"12—1—Forests—A1(a)2"**
62.	**Rs. 3,81,645**	**„**	**do.**	**A1 (b)"**
63.	**Rs. 120**	**„**	**do.**	**A2"**
64.	**Rs. 14,226**	**„**	**do.**	**A4 (a)"**
65.	**Rs. 3,822**	**„**	**do.**	**A5"**
66.	**Rs. 200**	**„**	**do.**	**B7/2"**
67.	**Rs. 6,280**	**„**	**do.**	**B8 (a)"**
68.	**Rs. 12**	**„**	**do.**	**B11"**
69.	**Rs. 381**	**„**	**do.**	**B12"**
70.	**Rs. 500**	**„**	**do.**	**B15"**
71.	**Rs. 2,656**	**„**	**do.**	**B16"**
72.	**Rs. 1,400**	**„**	**do.**	**B17"**
73.	**Rs. 1,000**	**„**	**do.**	**B18"**

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 4,39,742 as pendiate heads. Under "12—1—Forests—(A)1(a)2" an amount of Rs. 27,500 is required to pay the collection charges on 4,000 tons of Tramway fuel at Rs. 9 per ton and also towards the cost of sleepers. There was an original budget provision of Rs. 17,500 only. This additional allotment asked for is to pay the excess charges which is mainly due to the increased cost of labour which is required for the collection of the fuel. The next item is for Rs. 3,81,645 under "12—1—Forests—A1 (b)", which includes mainly the collection charges of timber from the hill paddy areas. When the original budget was framed, it is thought that the Hill Paddy Department which was then in existence, would undertake the collection work for the Forest Department. But now the work of collection has been transferred entirely to the Forest Department and the provision then made was found to be insufficient.

Under "12—1—Forests A2" a sum of Rs. 120 has been provided for opening two checking stations along the routes where they do not at present exist.

Item 64, A 4 (a), the amount of Rs. 14,226 demanded is required for the purchase of two lorries sanctioned by the Government for the transport of timber and fuel for essential purposes.

Item 65, Rs. 3,822 under "12—1—Forests A5". This amount is to provide for housing facilities for the additional field staff employed in connection with the hill paddy collection works.

Item No. 66, Rs. 200 is provided towards the travelling allowance of additional staff. Rs. 6,280 under "B8 (a)" is towards the payment of dearness allowance to the additional staff employed. Rs. 12 under "B11" is towards cleaning charges of the plantation bungalow for which there was no provision during previous years. Under "B12", Rs. 381 is for the payment of rents on buildings which have been rented to house the additional staff. Rs. 500 under "B15" is for the purchase of service labels. Rs. 2,656 under "B16" is towards office expenses including lighting charges and maintenance charges of the lorries. Rs. 1,400 under "B17" is towards the cost of maintenance of a bund at the Ernakulam Depot tank and the cost of purchase of uniforms required for the additional staff. Rs. 1,000 under "B18" is required towards the printing charges of the additional Care Forms and other printed forms that are required. The total additional allotment applied for amounts to Rs. 4,39,742. Here, I would take the opportunity to clear a misapprehension that is obvious from the dissenting minute of Mr. Bhaskara Menon in the Standing Finance Committee's note. He has said that a very substantial portion of the timber should be made available for the people of this State and unless this is done, the additional allotment will

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